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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Translated from the German Report

Dated: 20 October - 8 November 1942

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P R E F A C E

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNW, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. A total of 145 reports, [redacted] appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942 - March 1943. [redacted] include mostly daily reports for March 1943 as well as a few monthly reports covering the [redacted] part of 1942 [redacted] early part of 1943. The last four reports, [redacted] summarize Soviet economic activities for periods of three to nine months in 1943 and 1944.

[redacted] three of these reports have been translated and issued by [redacted] One hundred reports, [redacted] are being translated and issued by Strategic Division of the Office of Research and Reports (CIA). The series will be completed with the publication of [redacted]

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Military-Economic Report

(Based on domestic radio traffic from 20 October - 8 November 1942)

I. Personnel Situation

(1) In Uralsk there is a lack of personnel for procuring breadgrains and for field cultivation for the purpose of enlarging the tillage area. The defective tractors cannot be repaired in sufficient numbers because of a lack of personnel. There is a shortage of bookkeepers so that the rajons cannot complete the required accounting.

(2) In Kustanai the using of Komsomol members for field cultivation and the work performed by them is unsatisfactory.

(3) In Karaganda the plan in relation to the use of Komsomol members for field work was fulfilled.

(4) In Aktyubinsk at least 40 percent of the tillage area to be worked for the spring harvest remains untouched because of a shortage of personnel.

(5) The NKRF shipyard in Osetrovo has a shortage of the workers. Moscow ordered the shipyard to train young girls as workers. There is no other possibility of procuring a labor force. Workers of the NKRF who distinguish themselves through special performances will be favored with an allotment of all types of food.

(6) Workers of the NKRF will not be drafted for military service until further notice.

(7) On orders from Moscow on 17 September 500 workers and 70 specialists were to be evacuated from Ordzhonikidze.

II. Food Situation

(8) In Kazakhstan the economic plan (for October?) was by and large fulfilled. The performances of Kazakhstan with respect to agricultural work were indicated as "not bad."

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(9) In Uralsk the grain harvest went well. The grain delivery plan cannot be adequately carried out because of transportation difficulties. The potato and vegetable harvest was reported completed on 8 November. The potato harvest produced a smaller yield than in the previous year. The sunflower harvest was still not completed on 8 November. The field cultivation is proceeding slowly, as is the drying of vegetables.

(10) In Kustanai it is estimated that the threshing work will be completed in November. They hope to be able to attain 90 percent of the scheduled grain delivery according to plan. In a few rajons of Kustanai Oblast' grain was delivered with a moisture content that was too high and hence frozen. The vegetable harvest in Kustanai Oblast' is completed. The sunflower harvest is very much in arrears. On 24 October only 9 percent was harvested. The tillage area could not be enlarged to correspond to the plan.

(11) In Aktyubinsk grain cultivation for the Army and the workers progressed slowly because of the poor roads. The farmers' supplied bread grains willingly, but groats and millet were not delivered. Also deliveries of flour and milled products were scarce. Threshing work in Aktyubinsk Oblast' has, up to now, produced poor results. On 8 November it was reported that it was snowing in Aktyubinsk. They will still attempt to plough as much as possible.

(12) In accordance with a decree of the Council of Peoples' Commissars, all bread grain is to be delivered to the state. Feed grain is to be partly issued in return.

(13) It was reported from Uralsk that the results of cattle breeding were successful. There is sufficient hay on hand. One report stated that in Uralsk Oblast' places for receiving cattle were congested and there was a lack of feed. It would not be possible to transport the cattle any further because of poor roads and the cattle epidemic. About 100,000 cattle are to be further transported to Komi where, however, grading and veterinary stations are lacking. Many

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emergency slaughterings must be undertaken. The latest reports concerning the cattle economy in Uralsk Oblast' suggest that these difficulties will be overcome slowly.

(14) The quantities of meat from the previous years have not yet been removed from the refrigerators in Gurev. As a result, the meat shipments arriving from Alma Ata cannot be accommodated and are threatened with spoilage.

(15) In Aktyubinsk the acceptance of additional cattle from West Kazakhstan is refused.

(16) In Kustanai the yearly plan for cattle delivery to the meat combine in Troitsk will be fulfilled as of 6 November.

(17) Tiflis reported to Moscow that, because of a shortage of salt, no fish could be preserved for the winter.

III. Industry

(18) Metal scraps will be allotted to ship repair plants by the NKRF for processing. The NKRF prescribes for its plants the greatest economy with respect to metals; non-ferrous metal, white metal and tin should be especially conserved. Substitute materials are to be used in their place.

(19) In accordance with a government order, the too little delivered quantities of metal scrap with respect to the plan in question will be deducted from the amounts of metal to be allotted to the plants.

(20) The NKRF Plant "Teplokhod" in Gorkij has to show successful results in tool steel production. The quality of the steel is to be improved further.

(21) In Raznezhe (near Gorkij) a new dock is being built. The NKRF Plant "Saratov" is working on an especially important order "No. 13."

(22) Packard-motors are being shipped in Kujbyshev.

(23) An NKRF plant in Molotov is carrying out truck repairs.

(24) The "Omsk" ship repair yard cannot complete its special assignment, since there is a lack of rivets and corresponding special workers.

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(25) In Irkutsk the exterior plate of the cutter is to be fastened with bent nails, since there is a lack of rivets and corresponding special workers.

(26) Uralsk has fulfilled the October plan for the delivery of wool and fur coats by 129 percent.

(27) Fire broke out in the plants "Red Revolution" and "Karl Marx" in Uralsk.

(28) In Kustanai Oblast' industry overfilled the plan (for October?) and has received praise. In Kustanai raw hides and leather were processed. Shoes are manufactured here for the Army.

(29) In Aktyubinsk, because of a lack of sulphuric acid, sufficient felt boots and children's shoes cannot be manufactured.

(30) Tashkent delivers motors and dynamo machines to Moscow for the Civil Air Fleet.

(31) "Raw leather processing" is carried on in Tiflis.

IV. Fuel

(32) The conversion of the trucks of the NKRF to using gas generators is to be pursued with emphasis.

(33) The East Siberian River Fleet received 5,000 tons of coal for October. For November an equal amount is anticipated.

(34) The Novosibirsk plants of the NKRF suffer from a lack of fuel.

(35) In Kustanai a certain number of agricultural machines are to be converted to using gas generators.

(36) In Aktyubinsk industry suffers from a lack of coal. The supply of petroleum is indicated as catastrophic.

(37) In accordance with an order of 23 October from the Transportation Commissariat, the Transcaucasian Railroad is to haul 850 tons of oil daily from Baku to Batum. However, this performance has not yet been reached.

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V. Transportation

(38) To travel from Leningrad, a special permit is needed which is seldom granted. In order to obtain a ticket one must wait over a week.

(39) In Uralsk and Kustanai there is a lack of closed boxcars for transporting hides and wool.

(40) In Gurev there is also a lack of boxcars.

(41) On 30 October it was reported from Uralsk that the last grain transports were frozen in the river.

(42) In Aktyubinsk the vegetable and potato procurement cannot be carried out in accordance with the plan because of a shortage of transportation facilities. There is a lack of cars for the necessary transport of cattle.

(43) On the line from Aktyubinsk to Alma Ata goods transports have been underway for over three months.

(44) In Aktyubinsk and Tiflis the situation of the evacuation of the populace is very bad. The same is true in Kurgan. The people have no work and no means of existence.

(45) Special approval is necessary for one trip to Georgia.

VI. Miscellaneous

(46) The Economic Department of the Peoples' Commissariat for the Navy is located in Ulyanovsk.

(47) The dredgers of the NKRF are to winter in Kirov (Vyatka) for the most part.

(48) In the first half of the year the scrap iron collection of the Lower Irtysh Steamship Agency brought in only 61 percent of the expected amount. It also appears that the results are less than anticipated.

(49) A transport of ferrous metal arrived in Vladivostok from America.

(50) In Dzhabul Oblast' fine tea is a valuable means of exchange. One can buy nothing with money there.

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(51) The political sectors (party organs) will be called upon to support intensely the execution of important economic questions, especially in questions of field cultivation and tractor repairs.

(52) On 7 November well-known Ukrainian, Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian personalities spoke over the Uralsk radio.

(53) Offices of the NKRF were ordered to train ski troops as follows:

Khabarovsk	1,000 men
Novosibirsk	2,000 "
Ust Usa	1,330 "

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